that have been received so far from the Government of Assam as Prioritized list of projects can be seen at the Ministry's website *http://mdoner.gov.in*.

(b) The list of the projects that have been approved/sanctioned under NLCPR for Assam is annexed as Annexure-I. (Available at Ministry's Webiste *http://modner.gov.in*.) [*See* Appendix 215 Annexure No. 2A and B]

(c) The status of the projects sanctioned under NLCPR for Assam during 2007-08 is also annexed as Annexure-II. (Available at Ministry's Website *http://mdoner.gov.in*.) [*See* Appendix 215 Annexure No. 2A and B]

Socio-economic development of NER

1034. SHRI S.S. AHLUWALIA: Will the Minister of DEVELOPMENT OF NORTH EASTERN REGION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has identified measures which are found to be necessary to be implemented on short-term and on long-term basis respectively with a view to enhance the pace of socio-economic development of the people of the North-Eastern Region (NER);

(b) if so, the salient details thereof indicating projected scenario consequent to their implementation;

(c) the details of the status of their implementation as on 31 December, 2008 indicating respective dates of their commencements, State-wise;

(d) whether any review of the implementations has been carried out; and

(e) if so, the details of findings thereof?

THE MINISTER OF DEVELOPMENT OF NORTH EASTERN REGION (SHRI MANI SHANKAR AIYAR): (a) and (b) The North Eastern Region Vision 2020 document, laid on the Table of the House on 23.10.2008, was adopted the North Eastern Council in its 56th Plenary meeting at Agartala on 12-13 May, 2008 and formally released by the Hon'ble Prime Minister on 2nd July, 2008. It outlines the goals, identifies the challenges and suggests implementation strategies for various sectors for peace and prosperity of the North Eastern Region. The Vision document suggests regional and sectorial implementation strategies for promoting the socio-economic prosperity of the region, with a view to growth rates in the North-East Region catching up with the overall national growth rates. The document suggests a six-fold strategy for the comprehensive developments of the region:—

(i) Empowering people by maximising self-governance and participatory development through grass-roots planning to promote inclusive development.

(ii) Creation of development opportunities for the rural areas through enhancing productivity in agriculture and allied activities such as animal husbandry, horticulture, floriculture, fisheries and generation of livelihood options through rural non-farm employment.

(iii) To develop sectors in the region which have a comparative advantage such as agro processing, hydel power generation.

(iv) Enhancing the skills and competencies of the people and building the capacities for institutions within the Government and outside.

(v) Creating a hospitable investment climate to encourage investment by private sector particularly for infrastructure.

(vi) Harnessing the resources of the Government and the private sector to realise the objectives of the Vision.

Overall, the Vision Document stresses the development of agriculture and allied sectors, strengthening of physical infrastructure, participatory development and inclusive governance. It has been estimated in the Vision document that additional investment to the extent of Rs. 13,29,891 crore from the Eleventh Plan to the first three years of Thirteenth Plan would be required. As per projections made in the NER Vision document, per capita income of India by 2020 is expected to be about Rs. 87459 at the 2006-07 prices by 2020. To reach this level of income between 2006-07 and 2019-2020, the Vision document estimates that Gross State Domestic Product (GSDP) in the North-Eastern Region will have to grow at 12.95% per year on an average.

As per extant policy, 51 non-exempted Ministries and Departments of the Union Government have to annually spend at least 10% of their Gross Budgetary Support in the NE Region failing which the amount accrues to the Non-Lapsable Central Pool of Resource (NLCPR). The accruals under NLCPR are then spent on projects recommended by the State Governments under the extant guidelines.

(c) to (e) The implementation of various measures for the socio-economic development of the North Eastern Region through the Ministries/Departments and agencies of the Union Government under their flagship national programmes, special schemes and projects for the NER and investments through sources other than GBS is an ongoing process. They are reviewed at intervals at different levels of the Government and corrective measures taken to remove bottlenecks.

Air pollution in Delhi

†1035. SHRI BRIJ BHUSHAN TIWARI: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the attention of the Government has been drawn towards the increase in respiratory ailments among children as a result of increasing air pollution in Delhi;

(b) if so, whether there is proposal to ban polluting vehicles; and

(c) if so, by when it would be done?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA): (a) Air pollution may aggravate respiratory ailments depending upon,

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.